



## **BASTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

### **Parental Engagement**

Each year, usually in September, parents of all children who participate in the Title I or other federal programs are invited to a series of meetings. Meetings are held on several different days and times, and parents have a choice of which to attend. At the meetings we discuss Title I Policy, its requirements, and the rights and benefits to parents of children involved. We encourage parents of Title I students to attend these meetings and allow them to bring their child/children to the meetings. Parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including contributing to this parental involvement policy, and are invited to attend Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings, PTO meetings as well as participate as members of the SDMC (Shared Decision Making Committee).

### **Program Involvement**

PAC meetings are held four times throughout the year, we give parents information about our Title I programs, including (science, reading, math, computer lab, extended day tutorials etc.)

In these meetings we will also discuss the HISD curriculum, our expectations for students, and how we measure student performance. We explain how each individual child and our school, as a whole, are doing on state tests such as the STAAR, Renaissance 360, Imagine Learning and High Frequency Words. We encourage parents to attend parent/ teacher conferences to discuss their child's progress.

### **School-Parent Compact**

The School-Parent Compact was developed jointly with parents of participating Title I students and explains how parents, school staff, and the student will all share responsibility for each student's academic success. Parent-teacher conferences are held annually, during which time the compact is discussed as to how it relates to their child's academics. In addition, progress reports are sent home once every nine weeks period and parents are given an opportunity to volunteer, participate and become involved in their child's learning. Our compact is a part of the Parent-Student Handbook.

### **Building Capacity for Engagement**

It is part of Bastian Elementary School's role to teach parents how to help their children increase academic rigor. One way this is done is by assisting parents of children being served in understanding the TEKS, STAAR, and the district's and school's assessments, how to monitor a child's progress, and work with the teachers to improve achievement of their children, keeping abreast of scientific research and the HISD curriculum. Parents are given information about testing and curriculum via the school handbook and the classroom teacher.

### **Parent Training and Engagement**

Family Nights are held to show parents how they can work at home to help their children, and how to be involved in decision-making about the education of their children. Materials and trainings are provided, such as (Family Literacy presentations, Family Night activities in core subject areas,

training for parents through the HISD PAC, After-school Program, Communities in Schools, PTA, Special Education Office, information regarding assistance available from outside agencies, etc.)

Training is also given to teachers and other staff members. School staff members are taught the importance of involving parents as partners, utilizing programs for parents, and building ties between home and school.

Our school strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available on our campus. Shared parental involvement activities are sponsored for Title I, Neighborhood Vanguard, Special Education and Title III ESL programs.

Community-based organizations and businesses are encouraged to sponsor activities involving parents, school and community. We solicit support from local businesses, specific social agencies, civic clubs, etc.

### **Accessibility**

Participation and involvement of all parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, school and parent programs, meetings and other opportunities for participation is sent home in the home language whenever possible. Some of the standard information sent home in Spanish includes (School-Parent Compact, report cards, school profiles, student test results, etc.).

We ensure the ability of parents with disabilities to participate by providing handicapped access to (all buildings, some specific buildings, classrooms and buildings where meetings are held, etc.).

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